

III. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A character recognition system, comprising:

at least one transducer system for scanning printed character data and generating a plurality of sets of transduced character information;

a position collection system for ~~collecting~~ collectively storing positional data for each of a plurality of characters in each set of transduced character information;

a character position synchronization system that utilizes the positional data stored for the plurality of characters to ~~for~~ positionally synchronizing corresponding characters from different sets of transduced character information; and

a voting engine for receiving the positionally synchronized sets of transduced character information.

2. (Original) The character recognition system of claim 1, comprising an optical character recognition (OCR) transducer and a magnetic ink character recognition (MICR) transducer.

3. (Original) The character recognition system of claim 1, wherein the at least one transducer system generates a plurality of sets of transduced character information based on different gray-scale level settings.

4. (Currently Amended) The character recognition system of claim 1, wherein the position ~~information collection~~ system generates a position measurement for each character in the at least one set of transduced character information, wherein each position measurement provides a

distance from the character to a predetermined location on a document containing the printed character data.

5. (Original) The character recognition system of claim 4, wherein the predetermined location includes an edge of the document.

6. (Original) The character recognition system of claim 4, wherein each position measurement provides a distance from a middle point of the character to the predetermined location.

7. (Original) The character recognition system of claim 4, wherein the character position synchronization system determines if characters from different sets of transduced characters correspond to each other by matching the position measurement of the characters in different sets, within a predetermined tolerance.

8. (Currently Amended) A character recognition system, comprising:

a position collection system for ~~collecting~~ collectively storing positional data for each of a plurality of characters in a plurality of corresponding sets of transduced character information; and

a character position synchronization system that utilizes the positional data stored for the plurality of characters to ~~for~~ positionally synchronizing characters from the corresponding sets of transduced character information.

9. (Original) The character recognition system of claim 8, further comprising at least one transducer system for scanning printed character data and generating the corresponding sets of transduced character information.

10. (Original) The character recognition system of claim 9, wherein the at least one transducer system generates a plurality of corresponding sets of transduced character information based on different gray-scale level settings.

11. (Original) The character recognition system of claim 8, further comprising a voting engine for processing the corresponding sets of transduced character information.

12. (Currently Amended) The character recognition system of claim 8, wherein the position ~~information collection~~ system generates a position measurement for each character in each set of transduced character information, wherein each position measurement provides a distance from the character to a predetermined location on a document containing ~~the a~~ printed character data.

13. (Original) The character recognition system of claim 12, wherein the predetermined location includes an edge of the document.

14. (Original) The character recognition system of claim 12, wherein each position measurement provides a distance from a middle point of the character to the predetermined location.

15. (Original) The character recognition system of claim 12, wherein the character position synchronization system ensures that corresponding characters from corresponding sets of transduced character information have the same position measurement, within a predetermined tolerance.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for providing character recognition in which multiple sets of corresponding transduced character information are analyzed by a voting engine, comprising:
scanning printed character data to generate multiple sets of corresponding transduced character information;

~~collecting collectively storing~~ positional data for a plurality of characters in the sets of corresponding transduced character information; and

positionally synchronizing characters from the sets of corresponding transduced character information utilizing stored positional data associated with the plurality of characters.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the step of collecting positional data provides a position measurement for each character in the sets of corresponding transduced character information, and wherein each position measurement provides a distance from the character to a predetermined location on a document containing the printed character data.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the position measurement provides a distance from the character to an edge of the document.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein ~~the step of~~ positionally synchronizing characters includes the step of determining if characters from different sets of transduced characters correspond to each other by comparing the position measurement of the characters.

20. (Currently Amended) A program product stored on a recordable medium for facilitating character recognition in a multi-voting character recognition engine, comprising:

means for ~~collecting~~ collectively storing positional data for sets of characters contained in a plurality of corresponding sets of transduced character information; and

means for positionally synchronizing character information from the corresponding sets of transduced character information.

21. (Original) The program product of claim 20, wherein the positional data comprises a position measurement for each character in each set of transduced character information, wherein each position measurement provides a distance from the character to a predetermined location on a document.

22. (Original) The program product of claim 21, wherein the means for positionally synchronizing character information ensures that corresponding characters from corresponding sets of transduced character have the same position measurement, within a predetermined tolerance.